

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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OVERLAND PARK MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DISTRIBUTING OXYCONTIN

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Overland Park, Kan., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to his role in a conspiracy to distribute at least 439 grams of Oxycontin.

Robert Wise, 37, of Overland Park, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this afternoon to conspiracy to distribute Oxycontin.

By pleading guilty, **Wise** admitted that he participated in a conspiracy to distribute Oxycontin between Oct. 1, 2003, and March 31, 2004.

Specifically, **Wise** admitted that he was involved in the distribution of at least 439 grams of Oxycontin. **Wise** obtained Oxycontin by having doctors prescribe him the medication and then he would sell it for a profit, Graves said.

Under federal statutes, **Wise** could be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a \$1 million fine. His sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

Wise was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 30, 2004, in Kansas City.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph M. Marquez. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the United States Marshal's Office.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow